

LIBRARY

**CLAY CROSS URBAN DISTRICT**

|||||



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health  
for the Year 1944

BY

**JOHN REID GRAHAM**

**M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**

**Medical Officer of Health**

Clay Cross:  
James W. Petts & Son,  
Printers



**CLAY CROSS URBAN DISTRICT**



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

**OF THE**

**Medical Officer of Health  
for the Year 1944**

**BY.**

**JOHN REID GRAHAM**

**M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**

**Medical Officer of Health**

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR 1944.

---

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Bennison and Gentlemen,

I herewith present my Annual Report for the year 1944. Again the war prevented any work being done in the way of housing, etc., but preparations were going forward in anticipation of the end of the war.

The health of the population has been good, despite over-crowding and poor housing conditions, probably due to the increased earnings of the lower paid section of the community.

Again I thank the Council and my colleagues for their help and co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN REID GRAHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

### **Public Health Staff.**

Medical Officer of Health : John R. Graham, M.B., Ch.B.  
(St. And.), D.P.H. (St. And.).

Sanitary Inspector : W. A. T. Lynam, A.R.S.I.

### **General Rate.**

Sum represented by a Penny Rate : £120.

General Rate 1st April, 1944 to 30th September, 1944, in  
the £, 6/8.

General Rate 1st October, 1944 to 30th March, 1945, in  
the £, 7/-.

### **Vital Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.**

#### **Birth Rate.**

19.22 per 1,000 live births of the estimated resident  
population.

20.02 per 1,000 live and still births.

#### **Death Rate.**

12.33 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

#### **Deaths from Puerperal Causes.**

From Sepsis	....	Nil
-------------	------	-----

From Other Causes	....	Nil
-------------------	------	-----

#### **Infantile Death Rate.**

All Infants per 1,000 live births	....	....	55.17
-----------------------------------	------	------	-------

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	41.37
-----------------------------------------------------	-------

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	13.79
---------------------------------------------------------	-------

### **Social Conditions.**

The main industry in the Urban Area is coal and iron. A certain amount of outlet for female employment is found in Chesterfield, but within the Urban Area itself there are no light industries.

During the war period there has been full employment, and this fact with the increased spending capacity seems to have balanced the adverse conditions of black-out and overcrowding, in maintaining a fair standard of health.

#### **Housing.**

In common with other local authorities Clay Cross is faced with a serious housing problem. Apart from overcrowding there are a great number of properties in the area which should be demolished. As far as one can judge, the work of clearing unfit properties will have to be postponed until houses are provided for the overcrowded and "homeless," i.e., those families who are living in rooms or lodgings. This, unfortunately, will mean that many families will have to live for some years to come in an unhealthy environment.

It may be argued that such properties should have extensive repairs done, and then given a guaranteed lease of life. Is this worth while when every man and every scrap of material is needed for the erection of new houses and the repairs to present decent properties? Some happy medium may be found, but unfortunately there are no signs of it yet.

A further brake on the quick re-housing is the limitation of suitable building sites, owing to the presence of coal seams, which with the new methods being introduced in the mining industry, it may be possible to now work economically, but before were not a practical proposition to get.

### **Births in the Clay Cross Urban District**

Live Births. Males : Total 76. Legitimate 71, Illegitimate 5.

Females : Total 69. Legitimate 63, Illegitimate 6.

Still Births. Males : Total 2. Legitimate 1, Illegitimate 1.

Females : Total 4. Legitimate 4.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.

Males : Total 3. Legitimate 2, Illegitimate 1

Females : Total 5. Legitimate 4, Illegitimate 1.

	Male	Female
All causes	48	45
Typhoid and parat. Fevers	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Fevers	0	1
Scarlet Fever	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	2	0
Other forms of Tuberculosis	0	0
Syphilitic Diseases	0	0
Influenza	1	0
Measles	0	0
Ac. polio-myel. & polio-enceph.	0	0
Ac. Inf. enceph.	0	0
Cancer of buc. cav. & oesoph (M)		
uterus (F)	0	1
Cancer of stomach & duodenum	5	1
Cancer of breast	0	1
Cancer of all other sites	1	3
Diabetes	0	0
Intracranial vascular lesions	9	6
Heart Disease	13	11
Other dis. of circulatory system	3	2
Bronchitis	1	4
Pneumonia	1	4
Other respiratory diseases	0	0
Ulcer of Stomach or duodenum	1	0
Diarrhoea under two years	0	0
Appendicitis	0	0
Other digestive diseases	0	2
Nephritis	0	0
Puer. & post-abortion sepsis	0	0
Other maternal causes	0	0
Premature Birth	2	0
Con. mal. birth inj. infant dis.	1	4
Suicide	1	0
Road Traffic accident	1	1
Other violent causes	2	1
All other causes	4	3

## Birth Rates, Civilian Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality for the year 1944.

		England and Wales	126 C.Bs. and great towns including London	148 Smaller Towns resident population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 census	London Adm. County	Clay Cross U.D.C.
<i>Rates per 1000 Civilian population</i>						
Live Births	...	17.6	20.3	20.9	15.0	19.22
Still Births	...	0.50	0.64	0.61	0.42	0.80
<b>Deaths :</b>						
All Causes		11.6	13.7	12.4	15.7	12.33
Typhoid & Para- typhoid		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	..	0.00	0.00.	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough		0.03	0.03	0.02	0.04	0.00
Diphtheria	...	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.01	0.00
Influenza	...	0.12	0.10	0.11	0.08	0.13
Smallpox	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00

### *Rates per 1000 Live Births :*

Deaths under 1 year of age	46	52	44	61	55.17
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	4.8	7.3	4.4	10.1	0.00

### *Rates per 1000 Civilian Population :*

#### **Notifications :**

Typhoid Fever...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00
CerebroSpinalFever	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.06	0.53
Scarlet Fever	2.40	2.41	2.67	1.57	12.73
Whooping Cough	2.49	2.49	2.29	2.90	0.00
Diphtheria	0.58	0.67	0.69	0.31	0.93
Erysipales	8.29	0.32	0.28	0.37	0.00
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	4.16	4.51	3.94	2.98	1.58
Pneumonia	0.97	1.13	0.82	0.93	0.93

### *Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still).*

#### **Notifications :**

Puerperal Fever	10.34	13.13	9.25	( 3.61	0.00
Puerperal Pyrexia)				( 14.14	



## Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

### Bacteriological Report on Samples of Water, 1944 :

Total	Place Obtained	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
14	Borehole, Springs, Brook ....	13	1
9	Mains Supply ....	8	1
<hr/> 23		<hr/> 21	<hr/> 2

### Water Supply.

The Urban District has its own supply, derived from bore-hole and small reservoir supply from the brook. There is also a supply directly from springs. A few houses are supplied by the North East Derbyshire Joint Water Committee. The water is of good quality and has no plumbo solvent action.

Since the installation of a submersible electric pump in the borehole, there has been no shortage.

All water is chlorinated before being put into supply.

There are 2,167 houses in the Urban District, and are supplied as follows:

Clay Cross U D.C. piped supply	....	....	2,008
North East Derbyshire Joint Water Committee piped supply	....		136
Other sources: i.e. wells, springs, etc.....	....		23

Samples at the source and from the water in supply are taken at regular intervals.

During the year, 23 samples were taken. 21 were satisfactory, two were unsatisfactory.

### Drainage and Sewerage.

No new sewers have been laid during the year.

Consideration has been given to the question of provision of sewers for the Ashover Road district and sewage disposal works for this area together with a portion of the north end of Clay Cross.

### Closet Accommodation.

Type		Number in use at end of 1944
Privy Middens	....	138
Pail Closets	....	6
Water Closets	....	2258
Trough and Slop Water Closets		12
		<hr/> 2414

#### Conversions to Water Closets during 1944:

Privy Conversions....	....	0
Pail Closets	....	0
		<hr/> 0

Various sites have been inspected with a view to purchase for housing purposes.

### Cleansing and Scavenging.

This work is carried out efficiently by the Council's workmen. There is one low loading refuse collecting vehicle of modern design, and other vehicles are provided with sheets.

All dust bins are emptied weekly.

Controlled tipping is in operation.

The Council retain the services of a rat catcher.

The streets are regularly cleaned, including Sundays.

Powers under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, have been delegated to the Council.

Salvage operations carried out during the year 1944 were as follows :

	T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper ....	59	13	2	403	16	1
Scrap Iron ....	1	7	0	4	14	10
Tins ....	2	8	0	4	16	0
Non-Ferrous Metals		1	1	2	3	1
Textiles....	6	7	0	48	8	0
Rubber ....		13	3	2	0	4
Bones ....	4	10	2	21	9	10
Broken Glass ....	32	4	0	72	9	0
	107	5	0	£559	17	2

### **Petroleum Acts.**

Ten licences were granted for the storing of Petroleum Spirit and two licences for the storing of Carbide of Calcium.

The storage capacity is 42,100 gallons of Petroleum and 20 cwts. of Carbide.

### **Infectious Disease.**

Scarlet Fever.

There was a mild epidemic of Scarlet Fever this year. 96 cases were notified compared with 27 in 1943 and 12 the previous year. No deaths were recorded.

Diphtheria.

7 cases were notified as compared with 14 in the two previous years. No deaths occurred.

Cerebro Spinal Fever.

4 cases were notified with 1 death.

Measles.

There were 12 notifications and no deaths as compared with 1943 figures of 56 notifications and 2 deaths.

Whooping Cough.

No cases were notified.

72 children under 5 were immunised against diphtheria and 7 over 5.

### Bacteriological Examinations.

Table showing the number of specimens sent from the Urban District of Clay Cross, and examined at the County Laboratory, Derby.

			Positive	Negative
Enterica :				
Typhoid, Para-Typhoid A & B ...			—	—
Gaertner, Dysentery, etc. ...			—	—
Diphtheria ...	...		—	17
Phthisis ...	...		—	15
Water ...	...		—	—
Milk for T.B. Inoculations sent from the Ministry of Agriculture ...				
T B. Inoculation, Routine Samples			—	—
Methylene Blue Test ...	...		—	—
Bacillus Coli ...	...	...	—	—
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	—	2
		Totals	0	34

### Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Cases Notified	Treated at home	Treated in hospital	Vision unimpaired	Vision impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
1	1	0	0	0	0	0

### Infectious Diseases

Disease	Total Number Notified	Cases ad- mitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox ....	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever ...	96	89	0
Diphtheria ..	7	5	0
Enteric Fever ...	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever )			
Puerperal Pyrexia ) ...	0	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	4	4	1
Erysipales ...	0	0	0
Polio-myelitis ..	0	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica	0	0	0
Undulant Fever ...	0	0	0
Measles ...	12	0	0
Whooping Cough ...	0	0	0

**Tuberculosis Return for 1944.**

Age periods	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	PULMONARY.		NON-PULMONARY.		PULMONARY.		NON-PULMONARY.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 and over	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
15 and over	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
25 and over	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
35 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1	0	2	0	1	1	0	0
Not Notified.				Not Primary.				
Cases included above	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

## Scabies Order, 1941.

### Poolsbrook Treatment Centre.

Number of cases, 2,890.

#### Scabies.

	Adults	5-15 yrs.	Und. 5 yrs	Total.
Chesterfield R.D.C.	759	408	198	1365
Clay Cross U.D.C. ....	91	45	25	161
Clowne R.D.C. ....	231	108	65	404
Dronfield U.D.C. ....	20	13	5	38
Staveley U.D.C. ....	231	132	47	410
	<hr/> 1332	<hr/> 706	<hr/> 340	<hr/> 2378

#### Head Lice.

Chesterfield R.D.C. ....	18 (15)	169 (146)	20 (18)	207 (179)
Clay Cross U.D.C. ....		5 (5)		5 (5)
Clowne R.D.C. ....	5 (4)	39 (35)	3 (1)	47 (40)
Dronfield U.D.C. ....		8 (7)	1 (0)	9 (7)
Staveley U.D.C. ....	5 (4)	57 (45)	3 (2)	65 (51)
	<hr/> 28 (23)	<hr/> 278 (238)	<hr/> 27 (21)	<hr/> 333 (282)

#### Scabies with verminous heads.

Chesterfield R.D.C. ....	18 (15)	115 (90)	18 (15)	151 (120)
Clay Cross U.D.C. ....	2 (2)	10 (10)	3 (2)	15 (14)
Clowne R.D.C. ....	2 (2)	27 (22)	4 (4)	33 (28)
Dronfield U.D.C. ....		1 (1)		1 (1)
Staveley U.D.C. ....	7 (4)	33 (27)	9 (8)	49 (39)
	<hr/> 29 (23)	<hr/> 186 (150)	<hr/> 34 (29)	<hr/> 249 (202)

Add 45 Miscellaneous cases  
 134 Diagnosis NOT confirmed  


---

 179

20 cases were evacuees.



Infestation.      Personal.

Treatment Centre, Poolsbrook.

During the year a total of 2,890 patients attended the centre for treatment for scabies or verminous heads.

A table of the cases is appended.

As a routine, all patients attending for treatment for scabies are thoroughly examined for head and body infestation. Of the 2,378 patients attending for treatment for scabies, 249 had infested heads, i.e., just over 10%. In the age group 5-15 the percentage of scabies with verminous heads rises to 26.3%.

Two interesting investigations were carried out on the personal cleanliness of persons suffering from Scabies and those with lousy heads.

#### (1) Scabies.

A group of 869 individuals suffering from scabies were noted as to their personal cleanliness.

785 could be classed as clean, 64 dirty and 10 very dirty.

In terms of family groups 200 were examined and 17 were dirty, i.e., 8.6%.

#### (2) Verminous Heads.

In this investigation combings from a group of 121 persons were examined and in 90 they were found to be clean. In other words 82.6% of cases, heads were not "dirty" in the sense that filth was present but were infested with lice.

Another investigation completed was on the use of medicaments used by patients themselves to treat scabies. Out of 1,797 cases under investigation, 1,099 had used some type of preparation entirely useless for curing scabies. 617 patients had used only one type and 482 had used more than one type. It was interesting to note that the most widely used were those preparations much advertised as "cure-alls" for skin troubles.

The most arduous work done, was on the suggestion and directed by Dr. Kenneth Mellanby of the Sorby Research Institute, Sheffield, to ascertain the average louse population in heads. These investigations are now complete, but the results have not yet been co-ordinated and studied. It is hoped they will be published during 1945.

# Annual Report of Sanitary Inspector.

CLAY CROSS URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT, 1944

Name of Inspector : W. A. T. LYNAM, A.R.S.I.

Area of District : 2,023.

Estimated No. of Houses : 2,167.

New houses erected 1944: (a) by Local Authority 0; (b) Private enterprise 0

	Number of Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.	Number of Informal Notices served.	Number of Legal Notices served.	Nuisances abated with or without Notice.
CLOSETS AND ASHPITS—				
Defective Privies, Pail Closets and Ashpits ... ..	—	—	—	—
NOT FOR CONVERSION				
Conversion of Privies into W.C.s	—	—	—	—
Conversion of Pail Closets into W.C.s ... ..	—	—	—	—
Conversion of Privies into Pail Closets ... ..	—	—	—	—
Defective Water Closets ...	38	19	—	26
Provision of Additional Water Closets ... ..	2	—	—	1
Provision of Portable Ashbins	342	47	—	144
Dirty Closets ... ..	—	—	—	—
DRAINAGE—				
No Disconnection of Waste Pipe	—	—	—	—
Defective Waste Pipe, Traps, Inlets and Drains ... ..	12	7	—	9
Drains Obstructed ... ..	132	52	—	126
OTHER DEFECTS—				
Paving of Courts and Yards ...	12	5	—	8
Roofs, Eaves-Spouts and Down-Spouts ... ..	46	12	—	18
Sinks ... ..	6	3	—	4
Insufficient Ventilation ... ..	—	—	—	—
Windows ... ..	32	21	—	23
Dampness ... ..	31	9	—	4
Water in Cellars ... ..	13	2	—	2
Water Supply ... ..	7	3	—	3
Overcrowding ... ..	6	1	—	1
Foul Condition of Houses ...	—	—	—	—
Offensive Accumulations ...	2	1	—	1
Animals improperly kept ...	—	—	—	—
Pigsties ... ..	—	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances ... ..	—	—	—	—
Urinals ... ..	—	—	—	—
Nuisances not specified above ...	65	31	—	28
	<hr/> 746	<hr/> 213	<hr/> —	<hr/> 398



	Number on Register.	Inspections Made.	Notices Served.	Nuisances Abated with or without Notice.
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	35	47	4	4
Bakehouses ... ..	3	6	2	2
Slaughterhouses ... ..	8	28	—	—
Offensive Trades ... ..	1	2	—	—
Common Lodging-houses ...	1	2	—	—
	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	48	85	6	6
	—	—	—	—

### Summary of Food Condemned, 1944.

1 tin Pork & Beans	4 tins Vegetables in Gravy
2½ lbs. Sugar	2 tins Picnic Roll
16 lbs. 9 oz. Cheese	1 tin Herrings
31 tins Evaporated Milk	43 Eggs
10 tins Pork Luncheon Meat	83 lbs. Tripe
1 tin Sardines	8½ lbs. Bacon
1 tin Chopped Pork	2 tins Stewed Steak
10 tins Baked Beans	1 tin Minced Beef Loaf
60 1-lb. Pork Pies	1 tin Mackerel
72 small Pork Pies	1 tin Salmon, Grade 3
1½ lbs. Potted Meat	2 tins Salmon, Grade A
4½ lbs Sausage Meat	2 tins Vegetable Broth
1 tin Sausage Meat	7 tins Soup
2 lbs. Meat Roll	1 tin Meat & Veg. Dinner
1 pkt. Kellogg's All Bran	22½ lbs. Raisins
3 tins Beans in Gravy	3 tins Chopped Ham
37 tins Pilchards	18 tins Pork Picnic Lunch
4½ lbs Tea	5 tins Herring Fillets
1 tin Fish Paste	2 Glass Jars Herring Fillets.
57½ lbs. Brawn	3 tins Jam
10 lbs. Sausage	1 tin Peas
1 tin Lancashire Hot-pot	1 1-cwt bag Baking Powder

## **Housing.**

### 1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts), 142.

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose, 242.

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head) (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932, 0.

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose, 0

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation, 0.

(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation, 142.

### 2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notices :

Number of Defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers, 0.

### 3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936, 0

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs, 0.

(2) Number of Houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:

(a) By owners, 0

(b) By Local Authority, 0.

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied, 142

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices, 120.

(a) By owners, 120.

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners, 0.

(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made, 0.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders, 0.

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made, 0.

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit, 0.

## 4. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV.—Overcrowding :

(a)	(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of the year .... 0
	(2) Number of families dwelling therein .... 0
	(3) Number of persons dwelling therein.... 0
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .... 0
(c)	(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .... 0
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases 0
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding .... 0







